

~~SECRET~~REPORT NO.  

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COUNTRY Rumania

DATE DISTR. 15 Dec. 1953

SUBJECT The Danube - Black Sea Canal

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REFERENCES:

PLACE ACQUIRED  

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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1. The construction of the Danube - Black Sea Canal, from Cerna Voda ~~N 44-21, E 28-03~~ to Capul Midia ~~N 44-21, E 28-41~~, began in 1948. The canal was being constructed under the direction of the General Directorate of Works (Directia Generala Superioara a Muncii - DGSM). According to plan, it was to be completed in 1955,   it was expected to be completed in 1954. This canal was to be 65 km. long, 80 m. wide, and nine meters deep. It will be 300 m. wide at both Capul Midia and Cerna Voda. The construction work on the canal was being done by thousands of workers, both free and forced laborers, including men and women. 50X1
2. At first, the clearing work was done by manual labor. Modern machinery was later brought from Czechoslovakia and the Soviet Union. This included electric excavators, Skoda dump trucks, railroad cars, scrapers, and other equipment. However, manual labor continued to be used, mostly for digging irrigation ditches for the rice fields adjoining the canal. Fruit trees were planted on the banks of the canal.
3. Work on the canal was carried on day and night, in three eight-hour shifts. The project was guarded by a large number of armed militia and security forces.
4. All work and equipment on the canal project were controlled by the Rumanians, with the exception of the telephone lines, which were controlled by the Soviets.
5. Soviet technical advisers were attached to the Ministry of Construction, Bucharest. The Minister was HOSU, who, until 1951, had been General Director of the Danube - Black Sea Canal Enterprise; he had been replaced as General Director by GRUENBERG.

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6. I heard from my colleagues that another canal was to be constructed from Bucharest to Giurgiu N 43-53, E 25-57 as part of the Cerna Voda Canal. For this purpose, about 40 engineers and technicians were sent to Bucharest for consultation and planning in the summer of 1951.

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